



The WisDOT Connector *Express*

August 28, 2008...Volume 9, Issue 12

Labor Day travelers should expect less construction, more law enforcement

Labor Day holiday travelers will find fewer work zones as construction crews pull back as many orange barrels as possible over the upcoming three-day weekend. But while construction workers take a break, law enforcement officials throughout the state will continue their "Drunk Driving - Over the Limit - Under Arrest" crackdown to get intoxicated drivers off the roadways. Peak holiday travel times are expected to occur between noon and 8 p.m. on Friday (August 29) and over the same period on Monday (September 1). More information is available on the WisDOT Web site at: www.dot.wisconsin.gov/opencms/export/nr/modules/news/news_0928.html_786229440.html.

Selling a vehicle? Be sure to remove the plates

Motor vehicle owners can save themselves a ton of potential headaches by removing their license plates when selling a used vehicle to another person. A southeast Wisconsin resident who failed to remove her vehicle's license plates after selling her car to another individual later received fines totaling over \$1,000 from the Illinois Tollway. The vehicle's new owner continued using the old plates and was photographed passing through the tollway gates without paying. Officials with the Wisconsin DMV advise motorists selling a vehicle to destroy license plates (if they aren't being transferred to another vehicle) and retain a copy of the title transfer document. More tips for selling a vehicle in Wisconsin can be found on the WisDOT Web site at:

www.dot.wisconsin.gov/safety/consumer/car/sellrite.htm.

DMV keeping an eye on salvage dealers

With scrap metal prices at record highs, state and local law enforcement officials continue their oversight of salvage dealers. While most licensed salvage dealers operate legally, some are being investigated for laundering stolen scrap. At the same time, investigators are keeping a close eye on unlicensed salvage dealers. Staff with the DMV's Dealer and Agent Section joined law enforcement officials to execute search warrants at alleged illegal salvage operations in Lincoln and Eau Claire counties earlier this summer. Citizens can do their part by dealing only with licensed salvage dealers. More info regarding WisDOT's role in licensing salvage operations can be found at:

www.dot.wisconsin.gov/business/dealers/licenses/salvlicense.htm.

Rail ridership remains on a roll

Ridership aboard Amtrak's Hiawatha Service between Milwaukee and Chicago continues to grow. A total of 78,644 passengers utilized the service last month - an increase of nearly 38% over July of 2007 - and setting another all-time monthly ridership record. Through July of this year, 430,608 people climbed aboard Hiawatha trains - an increase of over 28% compared to the same period a year ago.

Upcoming events

September 8 - 10, Wisconsin Transit Conference, Waukesha, www.wurta.com/wurta/

October 10, National Put the Brakes on Fatalities Day

November 19, WisDOT Annual Fall Rail Conference, Crowne Plaza Hotel, Madison

The WisDOT Connector Express is produced by:

Wisconsin Department of Transportation

Office of Public Affairs, PO Box 7910

Madison, WI 53707-7910

Phone: (608) 266-3581 E-mail: opa.exec@dot.state.wi.us

Web site: www.dot.wisconsin.gov

Back issues available at www.dot.wisconsin.gov/library/publications/format/newsletters/connector.htm